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ences as to its superiority: Prof. Valentine Mott, Willard R.

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS. - The

SINGER'S SLWING MACHINES.—The time has SINGER S

arrived to prepare for the Spring and Summer trade. He who
huys a Skwing Machine now will have a great advantage over
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fact that Singer's Machines and no other will answer for
making clothing, about titlers and general work, is well under
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At No. 376 BROADWAY, New York; No. 576 Chestnut-st.,
Philadelphia: Springfield, Mass.—The mest and only Reliaset Line Ryes invented and in use, in America and Europe,
as adjudged by the Scientific Jurors at the World's Fairs at
Lemdon and New York; also by all the Scientific Institutes
and first Surgeons in America. Pamphlets sent gratis.

New-Dork Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1857.

In the SENATE yesterday, on the Telegraph bill, a long discussion took place, but no definite actio

In the House Mr. ORR reported a bill more effectually to enforce the attendance and answers of witnesses, making them liable to imprisonment and fines. During a spirited discussion to which this gars rise the Assistant Sergeant-af-Arms brought Mr. Simonton before the bar of the House, and in reply to a question from the Speaker as to what he had to say why further action should not be taken Mr. Simonton said he was prepared to make

speech, and spoke for more than half an hour in justification of his refueal to answer what two Members of the House had approached him with corrupt propositions. He denied the power of the House to proceed against him in this particular case, and concluded by asking to be heard by coun-

Various propositions were made respecting him. One, by Mr. ORR, was adopted for the Sergeant-at-Arms to keep him in close confinement till he purge himself of contempt.

The proceedings extended over five hours. Ad-

The Tax Levy, vetoed by Mayor Wood, wabrought forward again last night by the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen, with the Central Park appropriation restored. The amoun to be raised by tax in 1857 was estimated by the Controller at 7,066,547. To this the insjori'y o the Finance Committee of the late board added \$1.62,000. The Board, however, struck out the \$200,000 for the Central Park and other items, reaching nearly \$50,000 more. The Finance Committee of the present Board added the Central Park and other figures, so as to make the total \$7,567,585. This report the Board took up by items, and added here and there until the Tax Lavy for 1857 now reaches the magnificent sum of \$7 813,855. If the Aldermen do as well as the ether Board, the figures will go up to \$8,500,000.

This morning we print the full particulars of the less of the brig Eme'ine, near the Ocean House, during the gale on Sunday last. Not a man survived to tell the tale. The narrative is principally derived from an eye-witness of the calamity.

There was a smaller number of beef cattle in market yesterday than upon any market day for several previous years; notwithstanding which the dealers found it extremely difficult to sell what they had on hand at an advance equal to half a cent a pound for the meat above the rates of the previous week. Butchers are weary of buying at prices more than equivalent to 11 cents a pound for first quality of beef.

Our Legislature has hardly yet commenced the business of the Session, yet already we perceive evidences of a disposition existing in some quarters to morease the expenses of the Government. Propesitions looking to an increase in the number and the emcluments of our Supreme Court Judges, to the erection of new edifices for the accommodation or extension of our Public Charities, to increasing the salaries of certain State Officers, to additional State aid to Colleges, &c., &c., have already been presented or influentially suggested. We enter our emphatic protest against the favorable consideration at this time of any of them.

For-Gentlemen of the Legislature, and especially of the responsible majority therein-many things can wait, but one thing cannot, and that is the completion of our State Cands. Borrow more money you cannot, nor can you, as trustees of the public interests, permit a property worth at least Forty Millions to remain unfinished and but partially available for the want of an additional outlay of Two and a Half Millions. Five Millions of Dollars, our State functionaries of diverse parties seem to agree, will finish the State Works, and of this sum we have just borrowed the last Million suthorized by the Constitution and have on hand an additional Million and a Half of realized Premiums on the Nine Millions borrowed. Two Millions and a Half, then, remain to be raised; and, for these, taxation is the only resource. You can, if you choose, make two (or even thee) bites of this not very polatable cherry; but there is little comfort in trat. Our way would be to impose a special Two stel Tax cel'ect it next Winter, and two the jon finished forever. In our view, you, gentlemen, will evince

cowardice and a so fish disregard of the State's well

being if you do not provide effectively for the abse-

lute completion of the Enlarged Grand Canal prier to May 1st, 1858.

But the requisite taxation, whether swallowed at a gulp or spread over two or three years, will be vehemently denounced and atigmatized. Everybody will feel it; only a part will realize its necessity and sound policy. Ignorance will feel only that its public burdens are doubled, while partisan knavery will whisper that this is but a natural consequence of Republican ascendency in the State councils. The burden is to be borne now; the benefits to be realized hereafter. The tax will be felt as a shock everywhere; but especially in those counties which the canals have popularly though mistakenly been held to injure rather than benefit, it will prove a serious trial of political integrity and fidelity to conviction.

We pray you, therefore, Messrs. Legislators, not to increase any salary whatever, not to create one new office, nor add in any way to the charges upon the State Treasury, but on the other hand, to retrench and curtail wherever that shall be possible. If any office can be abolished, if any salary will bear cutting down without prejudice to the public interest, do not besitate to apply the pruning-knife; see if you cannot intermit some part of the Printing which forms so large an item in the Annual Expenditures; and sternly resist every project for depleting the Treasury for local or personal ends. Do not let it be said, with even a show of justice, that you have doubled poor men's taxes in order to pay Judges \$5,000 per annum, nor anything like this. When the Canals shall have been completed, and shall be returning money to the State instead of calling on the tax-payers for help, it may do to think of increasing expenditures, but not till then.

An advertisement published in THE TRIBUNE of

jesterday morning illustrates, if we may use the

word in connection with such deeds of darkness, the fearful insecurity of life in New-York, of which we heretofore had sad occasion to speak. Erastus L. De Forest came to this city on the 13th inst. on his way to Havana. On the 14th inst., at about I o'clock in the afternoon, he drew a sum of money from the American Exchange Bank, and since that time he has not been seen or heard of. His baggage still remains at the Metropolitan Hotel, and his friends fear that he has been murdered. Now, it is possible that he may be still living, and that his absence may be hereafter satisfactorily accounted for. But then it must be confessed that the probabilities are all the other way. What are the facts? He had \$500 in cash and a gold watch on his person, and it was expected that he would go to South Brooklyn on the evening of the day of his disappearance. Considering that the garrote robbers are prowling up and down our thoroughfares; considering that they have shown an entire willingness to knock down and half murder a man for the small sum, we believe, in one instance, of twenty-four shillings, why should it be thought impossible that they have, for the sake of \$500 and a gold watch, and remembering that dead men tell no tales, and never come into court to bear witness against their murderers, made surer work, immolated their victim, and flung his body into a neighboring dock There are a plenty of different ways by which this gentleman might have been disposed of; he might have been strangled, or stabbed, or shot, or stunned, or slungshotted, or bonneted, or hocussed. We have no lack of professors of these gentle arts, these soft, persuasive methods of appropriation in this city; many graduates in the new school of felony-skillful practitoners-who will, with great dexterity, spare their victim the pain of consciously parting with his property, and who will alleviate larceny by murder. We have a plenty of demoralized Bill Suykses who have falled from the high estate of burglary to the low practice of street garroting; a plenty of Tom Kings and Turpins and Jerry Abershaus who lurk in the shadow of the wall, and, instead of boldly bidding their prey to stand and deliver, meditate ambuscades and assessinations, and against them the police seem to be powerless. Such being the state of affairs, we say that in New-York, when a man is missing, it is bility must continue until he makes his appearance, so that his friends do perfectly right when they advertise for his remains.

What a precious reputation is this for a Christian city, and for the leading city of a continent to acquire? What inducements do we hold out for timid, or even for prudent, gentlemen to visit us? How comfortable must it be for the loved ones at home, to know that in addition to the seductions of the grog-shop and the gaming den, we have added the physical danger of assassination, and that fathers and brothers may not merely return minus their pecket-books and morals, but may not return at al! We do not know how long the respects ble people of New-York intend to submit to this condition of affairs, but we do know that they cannot wholly escape the responsibility of the disgrace. We do not suppose that the bad outnumber the good even here; but we permit the bad to rule the good-to drive them from the polls-to take possession of the Government, and to fill thousands of homes with nameless terrors and apprehensions. All this is intolerable and will not much longer be endured; or, if it must be endured, let us, in the name of consistency, pull down our churches, and our libraries, and our school-houses, since they are but the forms and shows of an unsubstantial civilization! We must make life safe in New-York or conrent to be considéred from Portland to Galvestop, or from Philadelphia to Oregon, a place to be shupped not merely by the wise but the prudent. Will not our authorities for a while give a little attention to these shings? If not, we must be ready to bid farewell not merely to reputation and respeciability, but to wealth, to power, and to the great relative influence which we have heretofore

The recent severe weather has been peculiarly trying to Railroads. Intense frost weakens the tenacity of iron; bridges as well as rails lose their elasticity under its influence and become brittle as glass; rails covered with beaten snow and solid ice afford no hold for rapidly revolving wheels; tires fly like hammered icicles and hubs are broken like crockery. We doubt that any railroad in America pays its real running expenses while the mercury in Fabrenheit's thermometer is below or but little above zero; while on many the accidents of themselves absorb more than the entire receipts. The Eric and the Harlem have been especially unfortunate during the last month, but rearly every road in America has been running at a positive less since the 1st of December.

In our judgment, the Winter management of our silrends is radically wrong. Take the Erie, for sample: It is now morning three express trains adv out of this city, and we presume an equal amber into it. Does any one believe that the travel justifies such an expense! In our judgment, hise trains would not pay their way, even if there

were no accidents, as there notoriously and frequently are. Then there is a systematic effort to run most or all of these trains nearly or quite on Summer time, when the thing is just impossible. If twenty-five miles per hour is maximum speed in June-as we think it is-then fifteen miles per hour is all that should be attempted in January. We speak with reference to the Eric Road, which encounters great difficulties in grades and curves; but the principle is of general application. No train should ever be run over snowy and solidly frozen ground at a higher rate of speed than twenty miles per bour, even on the smoothest plane or prairie. The attempt to maintain Summer rates of speed in weather intensely cold is at once perilous, destructive and futile. Not one train in every dozen runs on time; connections are habitually missed, and disasters incorred in endeavoring to make them; and two-thirds of the travelers actually lose time which would be saved if the schedule speed were a fourth less than it is.

These strictures may be too late for use this seaon; but we entreat Railroad managers to remember and heed them. Let next December open on all the roads with fewer passage trains and timetables graduated to the exigencies and possibilities of Winter; and let these regulations hold sway till the 1st of April.

The London Times not long since suggested, by way of damper to the idea of the introduction of cetton cultivation into Africa, that if the cultivation succeeded it could only be by the African chiefs forcing their subjects to labor at it for their own benefit, and that nothing would be gained in a philanthropical point of view by substituting slave cotton cultivation in Africa for the benefit of African chiefs in the place of slave cultivation in the United States for the benefit of Carolina planters. These remarks on the part of The Times have drawn out a letter addressed to that journal by David Livingston, the renowned African traveler, distinguished for his recent discoveries in the more southern part of that continent. This letter, though rather rambling and discursive—as is natural, perhaps, to such a traveler as the writer has beencontains, however, a good deal of information. We gather from it the following facts:

Dr. Livingston does not think that the constitution of African society is such as, in the case of the introduction into Africa of profitable branches of industry, whether cotton-growing or anything else, to put it in the power of the chiefs to convert themselves into slaveholders and their people into slaves laboring for their benefit. The government of most of the African tribes is patriarchal. each man becoming the head or chief of his own family and their dependants. Above these patriarchal chiefs are others, known in the African dialects as "little lords," whose authority extends over several families, and to whose assistance, in case of any difficulty in managing their dependants, the family chiefs appeal. Above these is a head chief, having his cattle-pen and family dwelling in the center of the town, before whom are brought the cases of difference between families. In all cases of importance, the chief sends for all his "little lords"-generally his relations by blood or marriage-who give their opinions freely. If the chief is a man of energy, he decides according to his own ideas-otherwise he is governed by the majority; but in very few cases does he act in opposition to a decided public opinion. Even one or two firm opponents will make him hesitate and waver, or perhaps have recourse to dice or divination. These remarks apply particularly to the country south of 180 south latitude. In the country of the true negro, which lies north of that point, the political relations are generally the same, though somewhat modified by female influence. But the general relations of one tribe to another were the same in all parts of the country that came under Dr. Livingston's observation. One tribe is perfectly independent of every other, except by a sort of traditional bond of nominal subjection to a paramount chief, which becomes developed in case of invasion or common danger. Among the negroes north of 180 this system of paramount chiefs prevails in somewhat greater force than in Caffreland, though even with them it is much more in name than in

But the chiefs, though nearly independent of each other, are by no means independent of their people. If a man is dissatisfied with one chief, he can easily transfer himself to another; and as a chief's importance increases with the number of his followers, fugitives are always received with open arms. Dr. Livingston knew of one instance, the parties to which he names, in which a chief sold some of his people; the consequence of which was that whole villages renounced his authority and joined themselves to a neighboring confederacy. In most parts of the country the facilities of escape are so great that the slave system would not work, even though it were desirable to establish it.

But in point of fact the real productive industry of the country is carried on by free laborers, and only requires the impulse of roads to be greatly extended. The 30,000 skins sent annually to the Cape, whence many of them find their way to China te purchase tea, are collected by the Bushmen and Bukuluhaeri, the most free and independent persons in the country. Very large amounts of ivory, beeswax and palm and sweet oil are exported from Loando, almost the whole produced by perfectly free labor, and had the country roads, the export would be increased a hundred fold. These articles can be obtained at a very cheap rate in the interior. and the negroes all have a great preclivity to traffic. Formerly the traders went inland, and, along with beeswax, ivory, &c., purchased slaves sufficient to carry their merchandise to the coast, where both the goods and their carriers were sold. Since the repression of the slave-trade free carriers have been substituted, whom the Government of Angola requires to render their services at a fixed rate. Argola contains a population of 600,000, and only from 30,000 to 40,000 are slaves. From all these facts, our African traveler is of opinion, first, that the African chiefs have no power to reduce their subjects to the condition of plantation laborers; and, secondly, that slavery is by no means necessa ty to the development of African industry, whether

in cotton cultivation or otherwise. Dr. Livingston states that he carried with him to Africa the idea picked up from the Parliamentary debates and elsewhere that the attempt at the suppression of the African slave-trade was a failure, and that the cruisers by increasing the horrors of the middle passage did more harm than good. His observations in Africa have led him to a different conclusion. In Angola he found the time of the slave-trade spoken of in the past tense. He saw slaves sold for twelve shillings a head within a hundred miles of the coast, who would formerly have commanded severty dollars; and he traveled with comparies of slaves (chiefly wemen) not

for ivery and wax. The foreign export of slaves is not entirely closed, but is so dangerous as to prevent any except a few very daring characters from risking their money in it.

As to the cultivation of cotton in Africa, it is produced there already, though of a short staple and inferior quality. In Lozengo, a district of Angels, twelve bundred cloths, each six feet long by three broad, is the annual tribute of the free population to the Government. Caffre labor can be had at Natal at 7s. 6d. a menth; but even if it were necessary to supply cooly labor for the cultivation of African cetton, the example of the little island of Mauritius, which lies off the East African coast, shows how much can be done by enterprise and capital without resorting to slave labor or trampling on the rights or happiness of anybody. That little island is but thirty-five miles long by twenty-five broad. It is a great piece of volcanic rock, with so little soil that the bowlders which cover it have to be placed in rows of stone walls in order to get space for the sugar-cane. The holes are made for the cane between the rows of stone, a little guano being added, without which, or some other manure, there would be no sugar. After a season of cultivation, to give the land time to rest, the stones must be moved, and the places which they had covered planted with sugar. The labor employed is mainly brought from India. The population of the island is two hundred thousand, entirely free. The Hindoo portion of them-happy, and comparatively delivered from the influence of caste-feel more friendly to Christianity and civilization, and in that state of mind often return home to spend the rest of their days in ease and quiet. Thus, without resorting to the stimulus of slavery, is produced, by the conjoint operation of capital, enterprise and wagespaid labor, a fourth part of the entire sugar consumption of Great Britain. With this successful experiment in his eye, Dr. Livingston is not so cure of the impossibility of supplying England with sotton, the joint production of British enterprise and capital and African free labor.

THE LATEST NEWS. RECEIVED BY

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1857. The House to-day engressed nearly the whole sitting of five hours with Mr. Simonton's case of contumacy. It first asserted jurisdiction, and then proceeded to consider what course should be adopted. When the elephant had been caged, there was a discussion of various propositions submitted on this point. Humphrey Marshall suggested, as the true and dignified course, that the Speaker should propound the interrogatory proposed by the Committee, and Mr. Simonton should be required to answer in writing under oath; but, at the suggestion of others, he was allowed to reply orally and in his own way. His effort was directed to show that the investigation was not founded upon the course of The Times, and he disputed the power of the House, under existing laws. to arrest and detain him. The first proposition has been sufficiently discussed. Although three members did disparage the publication, the inquiry originated in specific charges made by him and the editor. Mr. Kelsey so stated in bringing the subject to the notice of the House, and Mr. Paine only confirmed by his personal knowledge what had been asserted. Mr. Paine's confirmation in no way relieved the first responsibility, but it fortified the accusation. In regard to the second point, Mr. Simonton did not succeed as well as he might have done if the proper counsel had been employed to discuss the authority of the House. He erred in appearing for himself, as men often do when finding sijents in themselves. The real point in this case is simply this: Mr. Simonton charged publicly that corrupt combinations had been formed on the Mianesota and other bills. When examined before the Committee, he admitted having been approache by two Members of Congress directly, and indirectly by others, for the purpose of acting as a go-

im. It appears to me that this purpose should have been considered before the criminating publication was made. Confidence has not two aspects. The patriotic reason which led to public warning shou'd not scruple at exposure when demanded by high considerations. In delivering his speech, Mr. Simonton appeared with the confident air of one not surprised in his situation, and who expected to encounter such an ordeal. His manner was good and assured, but half the speech would have lett a better impression. Before leaving the House in custody, he gave the Seargeant-at-Arms notice of action for false imprisonment. Of course, he will remain until the 4th of March, and then be discharged. This will end it, so far as he is conerned. Other testimony may reveal what has thus far been concealed, and the moral conviction will not be relieved as to the several members yet shrouded. The bill reported by the Investigating Committee to compel testimony in such cases, gives one month and one year, and one hundred and one thousand dollars, as the extreme penalties

between in negotiating the sale of their votes, and

being required to disclose the names of the mem-

bers, he falls back upon the confidence reposed in

mittee for consideration. The Ways and Means Committee will require the ote on the Tariff before the appropriations are granted, so some dodges contemplated will not be ermitted.

for refusing. It has gone to the Judiciary Com-

The President will fill existing vacancies in the Navy from the regular active list, and his nominaions may be soon expected. The retired men will have to take their chances hereafter.

If Mr. Buchanan attempts to put any disunionate into his Cabinet, he may expect thorough opposition in the Senate, and his Administration may not start as soon or smoothly as expected.

XXXIVTH CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.... Washington, Jan. 21, 1857.
Mr. JAMES S. GREEN, elected Scoator for Misouri in the place of Mr. Atchison, appeared and was

Mr. SEWARD presented a petition from the Geo rephical Society of the City of New York, protesting ainst the coinage of three-dollar and three cen sees, and praying that Lone but decimal come may be sued from the Mint. Referred to the Committee on

Finance.

The Submarine Telegraph bill was taken up.

Mr. HUNTER thought the bill required some amendment, as it left the whole matter at the discretion of the President. He was in favor of inserting some limitation in the bill, as he feared the United States might go beyond what was originally designed unless this precaution were taken.

Aution were taken.

Mr. COLLAMER replied: There was this limited on the limited of the company re more sid than was afforded by the British

ment desired to send messages over the line, it should pay for them just as a private citizen would, and no more. Mr. COLLAMER stated that the Company desired

to have some kind of security before they hazarded such an immerse outlay. All that was now proposed was that this Government should put itself upon the same terms as the British Government. was that this Government should put itself upon the same terms as the British Government.

Mr. BENJAMIN suggested that this bill did not limit this Government to the rame aid that the British Government had already afforded, but to what they wight afford in future—which was very indefinite.

Mr. SEWARD moved to amend the bill to ebviate objections, with the provise that the contract to be made by the British Government shall not be different from that already proposed by that Government to the New York and Newfoundland Telegraph Company.

Mr. BUSK thought the guaranty of \$70 000 per annum by this Government for a work of such magnitude and importance was very moderate. He would be wilbing to vote for \$200,000 a year.

Mr. DOUGLAS trusted that Mr. Sewand's amendment would be adopted, as the bill, in its present form, was liable to the objection of uncertainty as to the ameunt of obligation this Government would incur.

Mr. SEWARD stated that the wire for this telegraph Mr. SEWARD stated that the wire for this telegraph was already made, and the whole enterprise had nerotofore been conducted and managed with American capital. On the 4th of July next, if the bill pass, there will be a girdle around the world. It is proposed to lend vessels belonging to the United States Navy, as the British Government will lead her vessels, to lay down this wire, because there are not commercial marine vessels suitable for that work. If we do not make this contract, the British Government will be a suitable for that work. marine vessels suitable for that work. If we do not make this contract, the British Government will have priority of messages, and we shall have to pay for the use of the line in accordance with the contract which they may make: but if we do make this contract, we shall stand upon terms of equality with that Govern-

shall stand upon terms of equality with that Government.

Mr. Seward's amendment was adopted.

Mr. HUNTER remarked that both termini of the line were within British dominions, and he would like to know what guaranty we would have in time of war that we could then have use of the line.

Mr. SEWARD replied—It appeared not to have been centemplated by the British Government, and he heped they proceeded reasonably, that there would ever be an interruption to the amicable relations between the two countries. When this question first came up, this idea presented itself to his mind, and he suggested to the Telegraph Committee that it ought to be the subject of a treaty between the United States and Great Britain. He sent to the President and Secretary of State for the purpose of seeing whether the whole matter could not be settled by treaty to secure that object; but it was found that it would protract regotiations until after the 4th of July, and on this account the papers were returned without action being taken. ations until after the 4th of July, and on this account the papers were returned without action being taken thereon. Now the question arose, What should be dene upon this subject? That the termini were both within the British dominions was true, and it was equally true there was no terminus on this continent unless it were within the British dominions, and we have to dominions on the other side of the Atlantic. There was no other route upon which a telegraphic wire could be laid across the ocean. This was a distance of seventeen hundred miles, and it was not even certainly known that the fluid could be transmitted to this distance beneath the ocean. This was a scientific experiment, and the Campany were prepared to make it. If we shall ever go to war with Great Britisin, which he hoped might never happen, we should need to have both termini in our possession, in order to avail our selves of the telegraph, but his notion was that when the telegraphic wire was once hald there would be no more war between England and the United States.

Mr. HUNTER should be glad to think that the mit the papers were returned without action being taken Mr. HUNTER should be glad to think that the mit

lennium was so near at hand as the Senator from New-York supposed. For his part he should like to see some substantial guaranty in the bill by which the United States shall have the same advantages in time of war as the British Government. It seemed to him United States shall have the same advantages in time of war as the British Government. It seemed to him that the proposition was for this Government to contribute largely to a scheme which would give Great Britain great superiority in time of war.

Mr. KUSK replied, we were not making a contract with Great Britain but with a private Company. How could we make a contract to guarantee rights to us in case we should go to war with Great Britain!

Mr. HUNTER said the matter could be deferred until this treaty was arranged, and that was what ought to be done.

Mr. RUSK answered that we could cut the wire in

two or three hours if we should go to war, but it would be a great means of preventing war if we should have such a line of communication.

Mr. CASS hoped the matter would be provided for

by inserting in the bill the provise that no money should be expended until we receive assurances from the British Government that we shall not be cut off in

the British Government that we shall not be cut off in time of war.

Mr. Pugh offered an amendment that this act shall not take effect until a treaty has been concluded and ratified between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, whereby such portlons of the British possessions as command the western terminus of said submarine telegraph shall have been subjected to the principle of neutralization adopted in the convention relative to Central America and signed at Washington in April, 1850, and such other convention supplementary therete as may be ratified hereafter.

Mr. PUGH said this communication, in time of war, would not only be useless to us, but a vast deal of injury, and in time of peace what we proposed to pay would be more than the dispatches would amount to. Mr. Pugh argued generally in support of his amendment, which, he said, if not adopted, would render it necessary in case of war to invade Newfoundland, and take possession of that terminus as a matter of self-defence.

SEWARD said that if this Government does not choese to make a contract, it would be easy for Britain to advance the whole amount and have the eatire con-trel of the line in war as in peace. If we make the contract, we share the control in the time of peace and

Mr. HALE was sorry to hear the chance of war re-ferred to in connection with matters of this kind. The same argument would apply against in king appropri-ations for commercial purposes. If the British chose to cut off their end of the Suspension Bridge, our end of it would not be worth much [Laughter]. He did not believe that the Creator put man on earth to be

ways in a state of war.

Mr. TOOMBS (in his seat) said, war is the natural

tate of man.

Mr. HALE—We are coming to a spiritual state now
Laughter]. We have lived forty years without having
as with Britain, and I believe war not likely to occur n forty years to come. I advocate this proposition as peace, not a war, measure.

Mr. BUTLER spoke adversely to the bill.

Mr. DOUGLAS opposed Mr. Pugh's amendment. Mr. TOOMBS regarded the bill as for the benefit of rivate individuals rather than Government.

Mr. TOUCEY favored the bul, but suggested amend

Without final action, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. ORK, from the Corruption Investigating Com-mittee, rose to submit a report and resolution; also a bill; sying he meant to see for their immediate con-

Mr. GEOW raised the question that such matter could not now be introduced, this being one of the days specially set apart for the consideration of Territorial usiness. Mr. ORR, with a view of relieving Mr. Grow's ap-

prehensions, gave as his opinion that the matter to which he wished to call the attention of the House

would not eccupy the entire day.

The SPEAKER overruled Mr. Grow's point and

said the Committee have a right to report the fact that obstacles were thrown in the way of their investiga-tion and to apply to the House for a remedy. The report of the Committee was read, stating as fol-

lows: That during the progress of their investigation they had summened as a witness James W. Simonton, correspondent of The New-York Dairy Times, that smeng others the fellowing question was propounded to him.— 'You state that certain Members have ap-preached you and have desired to know if they could price and you and have desired to allow in the trength you, procure money for their votes upon "certain bills. Will you state who these Members are!"—and that the said Simonton made thereto the following response: "I cannot, without violation of "confidence, tean which I would rather suffer as youing." In response to other questions of similar import, he said: "Two have made them direct,, and others have "indicated a desire to ta'k with me upon these subjects, and I have warded it off, not giving them an opportunity to make an explicit proposition." when you say these communications were made cheet?" Mr. Simonton replied: "I mean that after having obtained my promise of secresy in regard to them, they have said to me that certain measures them, they have said to me that certain measures perong before Congress ought to pay, that parties interested in them had the means to pay; that they individually reeded money, and that they desired me to specifically arrange matters in such a way that in the measures passed they should receive pecuniary on pensition. The Committee were impressed with the materiality of the testimony withheld by the with the marrialry of the testing without as it can braced the letter and spirit of the inquiry directed by the House to be made, but were anxious to svoid any controversy with the witness. They consequently waived the interrogatory that day to give the watters lime for reflection on the censequences of his refusal, and to afford him an opportunity to the House law and practice of the House. to look into the law and practice of the House in such cases, notifying him that he would on some Mr HUNTER contended that such a project should be recalled. This was the 15th of January. On Tuesday, 30th inst., the said Simonton the former informing that

was recalled and the identical question first referred to was again propounded, afts, due totice to him that it be declined to answer, the Committee would feel coastrained to report his declination to the Heuse, and ask that bedy to enforce all its powers in the premises to compel a full and complete response. To that interregatory he made the following reply, and wa give it in full that no injustice may be done to Aft. Simonton in this report. He said:

"Before stating the determination to which I have come on this subject, I desire to say that I do not here dispute the power of the Committee, and I have not heretofore declined to answer that question upon any such ground. I have all respect for the Committee and the House. I do not decline in order to order the members. My declination is based upon my own convictions of duty. Since I was last before the Committee in deference to their judgment and wishes, I have examined the case of Anderson versus Dunn, to which they referred me, and have considered very fully what I ought to do in view of that decision, as well as in view of other considerations. The result upon my deliberations upon the subject has been to confirm me in the opinion that whatever the penalty I may have to suffer, I cannot answer that question. I beg the Committee to understand that I have no other motive, whatever, in declining but the simple one that I have stated before, that I do not see how I can answer that upon declinered to reflect discredit on myself, and I presume that my statement of that motive is corrobocated by the facts as they appear before the Committee. I must insist upon declining to answer that question."

The House will perceive that the toregoing statement shows the materiality of the testimony, and the duty of

my statement of that motive is corroborated by the facts as they appear before the Committee. I must insist upon declining to answer that question."

The House will perceive that the toregoing statement abows the materiality of the testimony, and the duty of the Committee to insist upon its disclosure. It shows the settled and deliberate purpose of the without such testimony rightfully and property, and the absolute necessity for the House to interpose, with promptitude and firmness, its authority, if it intended to expose and punish the corruption which may exist among its members by ordering the investigation your Committee have been pursuing. It is due to the digality and reputation of the American Congress to purge itself of such unwerthy members, if they have thus shamelessly prostituted their high and honored positions to such base purposes. The country has a right to know who have betrayed the trusts confided to them by their constituents. The honest men of the House should aid by the exercise of all the powers with which they are vested to secure the names of the supposed guilty parties, and thereby shield the general reputation of the body, as well as their own characters, from unjust and improper imputation and suspicion. The Committee consider it unnecessary to enter into an elaborate argument to establish the power of the House in this case. The summons was issued under the hand of the Speaker and was attested by the Clerk of the Committee consider it unnecessary to enter into an elaborate argument to establish the power of the House in this case. The summons was issued under the hand of the Speaker and was attested by the Clerk of the House and the contumacy of witness is a contempt of that authority. If there is a doubt whether this authorizes the arrest of a party in contempt, and his confinement until the contempt is purged, beside the right to indict other punishment afterward, it seems to your committee that none will question the authority of the House when they recur to the Senate. By an Act passed May 3, 1798, auth rity is given to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a Chairman of a Select Committee of either House, to administer oaths to witnesses in any case under their examination; and willful, absolute and false swearing before either is declared perjury, and is punishable as such. Here is express authority to swear witnesses, and false swearing is punishable as perjury. Is it then no contempt of the authority of this House, and the Committee are acting as and for the House in this investigation, for a witness to refuse to testify to material facts within his knowledge. The Committee concuruanimously in the opinion that the House is clothed with ample power to order the party into custody, there to remain until released by the same authority or upon the expiration of the present Congress. The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions: resolutions:

resolutions:

Resolved, That the Speaker issue his warrant, directed to the Sergeant at Arms, commanding him to take into eastedy the body of said Simonton, wherever to be found, and the same forthwith have before said House, at toe bar thereof, to answer for a contempt of the authority of this House.

for a contempt of the authority of this tionies.

Mr. ORR not conceiving it necessary to say anything in support of the resolution merely asked that it be put upon its passage. This being done, he should report from the Committee a bill more effectually to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either

House.

The bill was then read, and was in substance as fol-

Any person willfully refusing to give testimony or to Any person willfully refusing to give testimony or to produce papers before any Committee shall be liable to indictment for misdementor, and on conviction pay a fine of not more than \$1,000, nor less than \$100, and be imprisoned in the Penitentiary not more than one year, nor less than one month. No person thus testizing shall be held to answer before any Court of Justice for any facts disclosed before the Committee of either House.

Mr. MILLISON wished to know whether the investigation had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had disclosed the fact that the witness in questication had been described to the production of th

Mr. MILLSON wished to know whether the investigation had disclosed the fact that the witness in question was the author of the statements reflecting upon the integrity of members of the Houre, and whother he had a signed any reason to the Committee for making such general charges, and such a general breach of confidence in the publication of these allegations, while seeking to protect himself in refusing to answer the questions of the Committee, by declaring that by doing so he would violate confidence.

Mr. ORR replied that he did not think it proper to disclose any more testimony. The report stated that the witners in contempt of the judgment of the Committee is the correspondent of The New-York Times, and the House would remember that this investigation has its origin in certain articles contained in that pa-

has its origin in certain articles contained in that pe

Per.
Mr. KENNETT suggested that the bill be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.
Mr. JONES (Tenn.) doubted very seriously the pow-

Mr. JONES (1enn.) doubted very seriously the power of this House, in the absence of any law, to deprive
any citizen of his liberty: therefore he would not vote
for the resolution; and he would cheerfully and eordially go with the Committee to prescribe pains and
penalties in cases where witnesses refuse to obey summons and not testify.

The resolution was adapted—Yeas, 164. Those voting is the recentive. Burnett (N. V. Barnett (Miss.)

The resolution was adapted—less 154. Those voting in the negative: Burnett (N. Y.), Bennett (Miss.), Becock, Boyce, Bennett, Davidson, Edmundson, Edlictt, Herbert, Jewett, Jones (Tenn.), Keitt, Keily, Quiman, Walker and Wright (Mass.)

The House now proceeded to consider the bill reported from the Committee.

Mr. RITCHIE, a member of the Select Committee,

mr. RTICHIE, a member of the Select Committee, proposed an amendment, that nothing in the act contained shall exempt any witnesses from prosecution and punishment for perjury, before the Committee on Forgery, by him of any matter he may produce.

Mr. RITCHIE offered this in deference to the views of gentiemen who had expressed doubts on the subject, at lough he did not believe the bill would exempt witnesses and crime and the subject.

nesses for such crimes.

Mr. COBB (Ga) gave notice of an amendment, the object being to put beyond doubt the power about which gentlemen differ with regard to the right of the

House to imprison witnesses who refuse to testify or produce papers before a Committee. The minority of this House do not believe such power exists without

this House do not believe such power exists without the passage of a rule or law on the subject, and he intended to move that persons thus offending may be imprisoned in jail for a period not exceeding six months. The SPEAKER said the bill pending was a gaceral one, and suggested whether the legislation at present ought not to be confined to this particular case.

Mr. ORR replied the Committee may not be able to proceed in their investigation so as to report the facts to the House unless such bill be passed with a view to inflict greater punishment on recusant witnesses than the Committee suppose the House has now the power to inflict.

Mr. QUITMAN believed that the Speaker made

Mr. QUITMAN believed that the Speaker made a correct cecision as to the general character of this bill. He was opposed to this rapid legislation to cover this specific care, which effects the privileges of the people of the country as well as the members of the House. Mr. KENNETT proposed that the bill be sent to the Committee on Judiciary, with instructions to report it forthwith.

Mr. ORR replied that if Committee cannot compel a answer to that extent, the investigation must fail, if the bill were so referred, it would not be reported back in time for the Committee to avail themselves of its provisions. He argued to show the necessity and justice of its immediate passage, and said the constity had the right to know who are the two members alluded by Mr. Simonton. He protested against gentlemen being suspected of wrong, and yet no sufficient means being afforded to ascertain the truth of these grave charges through the public press.

Mr. STANION did not believe it essential after the adoption of the resolution of the Committee, that this bill should be passed to day or to morrow. He washed the bill to be recommitted back to the Select Committee so that they could return it when they thought proper, and that it be printed so that each member

Mr. HUMPHREY MARSHALL had no idea that

hit. He sit in the thought is a second moved that the bill be that before a.

Mr. ORR offered a resolution which was adopted, that Wu. B. Flood, Clerk to the Sergeant at Arms, be author zed and directed to execute the orders of the House during the absence of Mr. Glossbreamer, Ser-

Mr. DAVIS (Md.), a member of the Select Commitce, said that the question was whether the House with on ever any obstacle thrown in the way of investiga-tion, or period a cead stand. Hence the importance of